

# MISS LANSING'S LAST RITES HELD

## Church and Community Achievements Cited in Eulogy at Presbyterian Service

Last respects were paid today to the late Miss Emma S. Lansing, 84-year-old civic leader and last survivor of one of Watertown's most distinguished families, at funeral services held this afternoon at 2 in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian church.

The brief service was read by Rev. Herbert S. Schroeder, the pastor of the church, and Rev. Frederic W. Helwig, associate minister of the church and minister of the Faith Chapel. Miss Lansing, who died late Monday night at her home, 143 Clinton street, had long been conspicuous in church work.

Included in the church service was a eulogy delivered by Rev. Mr. Schroeder, who cited Miss Lansing for her notable achievements, not only for the church, but also for the community.

"We have come here to pay tribute to one whose earthly life is finished," said Mr. Schroeder, in part.

"And what a glorious life that was. I need not enumerate her achievements, the wonderful experiences of her life, her accomplishments for the church and for our city, her unflinching interest in people of all walks of life, in people as individuals who had problems and hopes and ambitions.

"We seem to be acknowledging the fact that this is the end of her life. But we know that is not true. What for us seems an ending, for God is just a beginning. Although an earthly life has come to an end, her life is beginning anew with God."

Then, as a conclusion to his message, Rev. Mr. Schroeder quoted Rev. John Henry Jowett, a Scotch Presbyterian minister who came to this country at the turn of the 20th century to become pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church in New York.

"Death is not the end; it is only a new beginning. Death is not the master of the house; he is only the porter at the King's lodge, appointed to open the gate and let the King's guests into the realm of eternal day. And so shall we ever be with the Lord."

"The range of our lives—years and ten is not the limit of our life. Our life is not a land-locked lake enclosed within the shore of 70 or 80 years. It is an arm of the sea. And so we must build for those larger waters."

Because of Miss Lansing's own wishes that flowers be omitted, there was a minimum of flowers in the church. There were the white flowers on the communion table, sent by the elders of the church, and the only other flowers were those sent by members of the Dulles family—the spray atop the casket and two floral vases flanking the casket.

The casket floral piece came from Secretary of State and Mrs. John Foster Dulles, while the flowers in the two vases that flanked each end of the casket as it stood in front of the chancel during the service came from Mr. and Mrs. Allen W. Dulles and Dr. Eleanor Lansing Dulles.

Secretary of State Dulles, Allen Dulles and Dr. Dulles, all one-time residents of Watertown, are nephew and niece of the late Mrs. Robert Lansing, Miss Lansing's sister-in-law. The late Robert Lansing, who was World War I secretary of state in President Wilson's cabinet, was Miss Lansing's brother.

As Miss Lansing wished, the funeral was brief and unostentatious. The only music was the fitting organ music played by Mrs. Orrell A. York, the church organist.

After the opening prayer offered by Rev. Mr. Schroeder, there was the Lord's prayer. Comforting and consoling Scripture readings—selected passages from the Old Testament and the New Testament—were given by Rev. Mr. Helwig.

There followed Rev. Mr. Schroeder's sermon, the text of which was based on I Thessalonians 4:13: "We would not have you ignorant concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope."

In the sermon, he emphasized that while death is inevitable, there is for the Christian the consolation and the assurance from fear in "the word of Jesus Himself that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

In his past prayer, given after his sermon, Rev. Mr. Schroeder gave thanks, especially "for the one whose memory we are here to honor, for the vigor and vitality of her life on earth; for her love and loyalty to her church; for her devotion and faithfulness to her host of friends; for the beauty of her life and her devotion to so many causes; and for all those Christian influences in her life which made those who knew her."

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The church service over with the benediction, the body was taken to the waiting hearse for the procession to Brookside cemetery, where the body was laid to rest in the Lansing family plot. Both Rev. Mr. Schroeder and Rev. Mr. Helwig were in charge of the final committal service, given as a group of friends and relatives stood beside the grave.

The active bearers were six men selected from the membership of the ruling elders of the First Presbyterian church and the executive committee of the Faith Chapel.

Despite the request that there be no flowers and that instead contributions be made to the various civic, religious and charitable groups to which Miss Lansing was devoted during her life-time or to the First Presbyterian church and Faith Chapel, a number of floral tributes were received at the funeral parlors.

Among the telegrams of condolences received was one from Michael J. Pendergast of Buffalo, chairman of the state Democratic committee. Miss Lansing was vice chairman of the county